

Application number 09/837,897
Amendment dated August 19, 2003
Reply to office action mailed July 30, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of this amendment, claims 18-37 will remain pending in this application. Claims 18, 26, 27, and 30-32 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification, no new matter has been added.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Claims 18-37 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Reconsideration of these objections and rejections in light of these amendments and remarks, and allowance of all the pending claims, is respectfully requested.

Drawing objections

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). Specifically, the drawings are objected to for failing to show the inverting input of the second gm cell connected to the inverting input of the first gm cell. This limitation appeared in claims 18 and 32. These claims contained the same typographical error, that is the word "input" was transposed for the word "output." This error has been corrected in claims 18 and 32 above.

Specification objections

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the term "variable resistance" is objected to as having insufficient antecedent basis in the specification. (See pending office action, page 2, third paragraph.)

Applicants submit that it is appreciated by one skilled in the art that a MOS transistor is a variable resistance. For example, the IEEE dictionary defines a MOS device as "a transistor that uses a control electrode, the gate, to capacitively modulate the conductance of a surface channel joining two end contacts, the source and the drain." This dictionary further defines resistance as "...the inverse of the conductivity." (See, "Comprehensive Dictionary of Electrical Engineering," published by IEEE press, editor-in-chief Phillip A. Laplante.)

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Accordingly, a MOS device is a variable resistance, and thus the specification discloses a variable resistance as recited in the claims.

Rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112

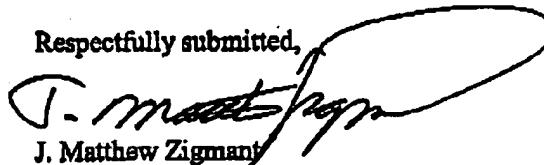
These rejections have been obviated by amendment.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal notice of allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-752-2456.

Respectfully submitted,



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